



*5 Copies*

WESTHOUGHTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT



of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for

1 9 4 3

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
WESTHOUGHTON.

September 1944.



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
Market Street,  
WESTHOUGHTON.

September 1944.

To the Chairman and  
Members of the Health Committee.

I beg to submit the Annual Report upon the Health of the District for the year 1943.

It follows similar lines to those of the immediately previous years, in conformity with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM H. LEIGH,

Medical Officer of Health.

AREA OF THE DISTRICT - 5,560 acres.  
CENSUS POPULATION, 1931 - 16,018.  
ESTIMATED POPULATION 1943 - 13960.  
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES AT END OF YEAR - 4,452.

VITAL STATISTICS.

		Total	M.	F.		
Live Births	Legitimate	246	118	128		
	Illegitimate	6	3	3		
	Total	252	121	131	Birth-rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1943	18.05
Stillbirths		8	3	5	Rate per 1,000 total (live&still) births	30.76
Deaths		184	92	92	Death-rate per 1,000 estimated population	13.18

Deaths from puerperal causes.

Death-rate per 1,000 total Deaths. (live & still) births.

Puerperal & post-abortive sepsis	-	-
Other maternal causes	1	3.84
Total	1	3.84

Death rate of Infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	59.52
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	52.84
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	333.3

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	22
Deaths from Measles " "	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	-
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	3

Population for Birth-rate & Death-rate - 13,960

Per 1,000 of estimated population.					
	Live Birthrate	Crude Deathrate	Deathrate from Tuberculosis of respiratory system	Deathrate from Cancer	Rate of deaths under one yr. per 1,000 Live Births
Mean of 5 years 1938 - 1942	14.6	13.0	0.19	1.37	50.6
1942	16.3	11.8	0.21	1.62	30
1943	18.0	13.1	0.21	1.57	59.5
Increase or de-crease in 1943 on:-					
(1) 5 yrs' average 1938 - 1942	+ 3.4	+ 0.1	+ 0.02	+ 0.20	+ 8.9
(2) Previous year	+ 1.7	+ 1.3	Nil	- 0.05	+ 29.5
Maternal Mortality rate					
Per 1,000 total (live & still) Births.					
Mean of 5 years 1938 - 1942	1.77				
1942	Nil				
1943	3.84				
Increase or decrease in 1943 on:-					
(1) 5 years' average 1938 - 1942	+ 2.07				
(2) Previous year	+ 3.84				

WATER SUPPLY. The water from the Bolton supply was maintained in a satisfactory manner.

DRAINAGE. There have been no important extensions or alterations in the general scheme.

HOUSING. Number of New Houses erected during the Year:-

- (i) By the Local Authority Nil
- (ii) By other bodies or persons Nil

Sanitary Inspections ( including housing) totalled 3,072 and 227 defects or nuisances were abated out of the 293 discovered.

FOOD INSPECTION. This work has been carried out continuously during the year - particular attention has been given to milk supplies - 383 samples were taken, 169 being submitted for examination for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli. In 11 cases a positive result was returned and these cases were investigated by the Ministry of Agriculture 's Veterinary Officer, who took the necessary action on discovering the diseased animal.

AMBULANCE SERVICE. The Ambulance Service functioned satisfactorily.

A total of 231 journeys were made as follows:-

Bolton	Wigan	Leigh	Manchester	Miscellaneous	Total
200	7	5	9	10	231



Great assistance has been rendered by the W.V.S. in connection with the Ministry of Transport's scheme for the conveyance to and from hospital of patients who -although not requiring an ambulance - were unfit to make the journey by ordinary means of transport. Owing in many cases to a long wait at the hospital the service rendered must have been very trying. I am sure the district is much indebted to the ladies who so cheerfully and courteously carried out this duty.

During the year under this scheme the journeys were:-

Bolton	Leigh	Manchester	Miscellaneous	Total
206	5	15	1	227

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever. There were 35 cases notified and 26 of these were removed to hospital. The disease was of a mild type and there were no deaths.

Whooping Cough and Measles. There is no evidence of abnormal prevalence during the year, though it is doubtful if these diseases are efficiently notified. There was one death due to Measles.

Diphtheria. During the year there were notified 10 cases of this disease as compared with 24 last year and a 5 years' average of 34. All the cases were removed to hospital. There was one death.

#### IMMUNISATION.

Progress in this work was maintained.

As a child approaches its first birthday a communication is sent to the parents regarding the serious importance of this treatment.

This is also stressed by the Health Visitors at the Child Welfare Clinics.

Fortnightly sessions were held at the School Clinic and the various Schools were visited.

During the year a total of 440 children were treated:-

<u>Under School Age.</u>	<u>5 yrs. and over but under 15 yrs.</u>	<u>Total</u>
199	241	440

Percentage of child population immunised at end of 1943:-

Under 5 years	...	43.9%
5 to 15 years	...	74.6%

#### SCABIES.

The district still lacked arrangements for the adequate treatment of this disease.

At the end of the year negotiations with a neighbouring Local Authority were in progress.

As a result, satisfactory arrangements were made whereby cases will be treated at the Clinic of the Atherton U.D.C. on a capitation basis.

WESTHOUGHTON URBAN DISTRICT.

Causes of death during the year 1943.

Registrar General's Return.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALES	FEMALES
Measles	1	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	-
Diphtheria	1	-
Influenza	-	2
Tuberculosis of Respiratory system	2	1
Other Tuberculosis	1	-
Cancer	11	11
Diabetes	-	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	7	10
Heart Disease	23	22
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	1
Bronchitis	10	11
Pneumonia	4	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	-	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	-	1
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1	2
Syphilitic Diseases	1	1
Appendicitis	1	-
Other Digestive Diseases	1	3
Nephritis	3	3
Acute Polio-Myelitis & Polio-encephalitis	-	1
Acute Inf., Encephalitis	1	-
Maternal Causes	-	1
Con. Debility, Premature Birth etc.	1	5
Suicide	1	-
Other Violence & Road Traffic Accidents	4	3
Other defined diseases	15	9
	92	92

TUBERCULOSIS. New cases and Mortality during 1943.

Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0								
1			2				1	
5								
10								
15								
20	1	1						
25	1				1	1		
35								
45								
55	1				1			
65 and upwards								
	3	1	2	-	2	1	1	-
	4		2		3		1	

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1943. (Notified cases only).

DISEASE	CASES NOTIFIED												Total Deaths	Cases removed to Hospital			
	Total Cases at all ages	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65 and over					
Smallpox																	
Scarlet Fever	35		3	5	6	16	5									23	
Diphtheria	10				4	1	1	2	1	1					1	10	
Para-Typhoid																	
Measles	251	4	16	39	43	62	82	4	1						1		
Whooping Cough	8		5	2	2	1											
Pneumonia	4						1				1	2			6		
Puerperal Pyrexia																	
Cerebro-spinal Fever																	
Acute Polio-Encephalitis	1											1			1		
Encephalitis Lethargica																	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1														1	
Erysipelas																	
Total	310	5	19	44	48	74	100	11	3	1	1	1	3		9		37



